





ASGARD.
IN THE AGE OF
THE VIKINGS.



ZOUNDS.



THOR...

...WHAT
HATH HAPPENED
TO THY...

MIND
THE BRIDGE.
HEIMDALL. NOT
MY FACE.



ALE!

THE GOD
OF THUNDER
REQUIRES THE
STRONGEST ALE
IN ALL OF
ASGARD!

LET THIS
BE A DAY THAT
WILL SOON BE
FORGOTTEN!

"AND SO IT WAS IN THE
MIDGARDIAN YEAR OF 896
THAT **BODOLF THE BLACK**--
DRINKER OF DRAGON BLOOD
AND BREAKER OF GODS--

--BECAME THE
STRONGEST VIKING
THERE EVER WAS.





"ALL THANKS TO
ME, OF COURSE.

"LOKI, BUILDER OF
MEN. FULFILLER OF
DREAMS.



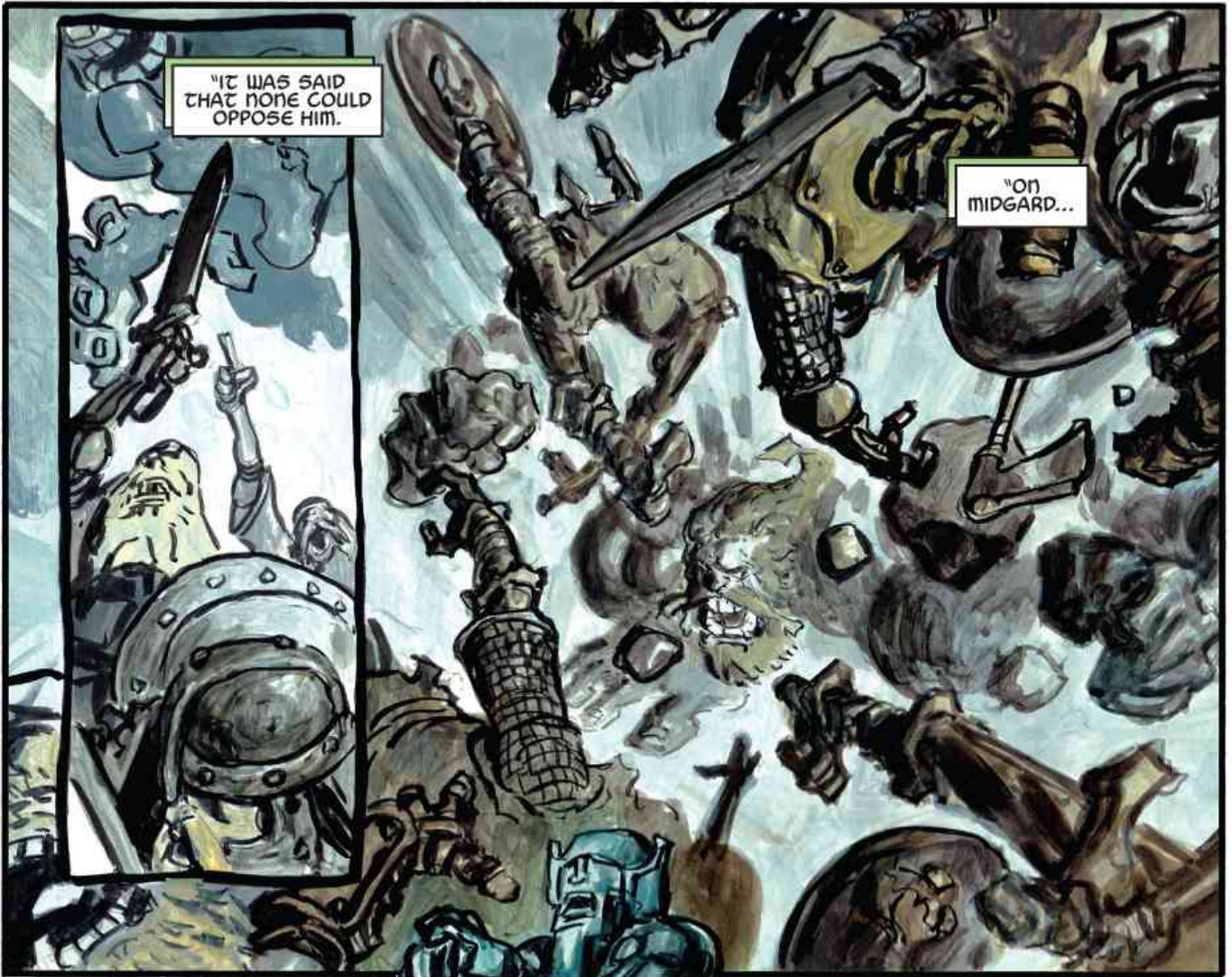
"SUDDENLY, MY TALLY OF
INCOMING PRAYERS BEGAN
TO SKYROCKET. IT WAS
A VERY GOOD SUMMER.



"UNLESS YOU HAPPENED
TO DRAW THE IRE OF
BODOLF THE BLACK.
WHICH MANY DID.



"THOUGH USUALLY
NOT FOR LONG.





"BODOLF WAS THE STRONGEST VIKING WARLORD IN ALL THE LAND.



"HE HAD EVERYTHING HE'D EVER WANTED. WOMEN. WEALTH. MORE POWER THAN HE COULD IMAGINE.



"BUT HUMANS ARE THE SIMPLEST OF FOOLS. CONTENTMENT IS SIMPLY NOT IN THEIR NATURE.



"NO MATTER HOW OFTEN YOU SATE THEIR HUNGER...



"...THEY ALWAYS FIND NEW WAYS IN WHICH TO STARVE."



STOP.
LAUGHING.

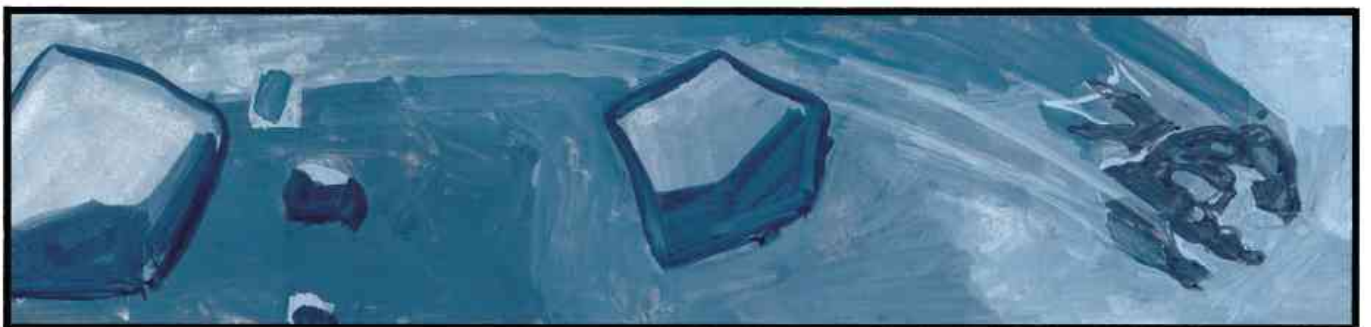








"THE GROUND QUAKED FOR MILES. THE SEAS SWELLED AND CRASHED. THUNDER SHOOK THE SKIES ALL OVER THE WORLD."





THE EASTERN COAST OF A
LAND THAT WILL ONE DAY
BE CALLED AMERICA.



I SMELL
IT TOO,
GIRL.



THERE IS
VENGEANCE
IN THE AIR. BUT
THIS IS NOT
OUR FIGHT.

NOT
YET.



"IN THE MYSTICAL CITY OF
K'UN-LUN, **SHOU-LAO THE
DRAGON** WAS DISTRACTED
BY THE RUMBLE OF DISTANT
THUNDER, LONG ENOUGH
FOR A FIST TO PLUNGE
DEEP INTO ITS HEART.

"IN THE GREAT NORTHERN
WILDS, A GIANT SHAGGY
BEAST HOWLED AT
THE SKY.



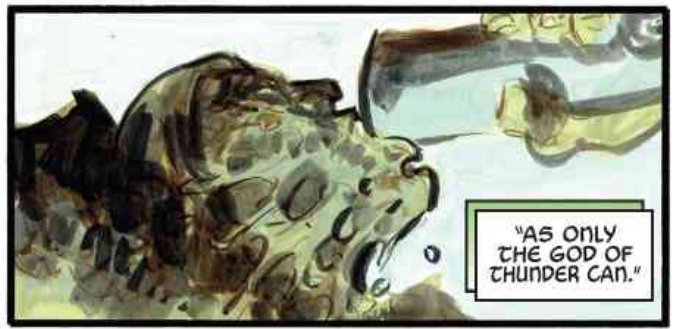
"ON THE PLAINS
OF AFRICA, A
PANTHER SNARLED.







"WHILE I WAS BUSY REPRIMANDING MY OWN REBELLIOUS CREATION-- UNFORTUNATELY AN ALL-TOO-FAMILIAR THEME FOR ME--THE GOD OF THUNDER WAS CATCHING HIS SECOND WIND.



"AS ONLY THE GOD OF THUNDER CAN."



NOW... WHERE WERE WE?



PERHAPS... I'VE DONE MY WORK TOO WELL.

BODOLF FEARS NO GOD!



BODOLF IS THE STRONGEST ON ALL OF MIDGARD!





THOR!



YOU CAN'T WAIT
TO TELL FATHER
OF THIS, CAN
YOU?

TELL HIM
WHAT? THAT
A LYING, HATEFUL
DEVIL LIVES IN
HIS MIDST?

THIS THE
ALL-FATHER
KNOWS.

STILL...IT IS
TIME TO COME
HOME, BROTHER.
AND TIME TO END
THIS FARCE
OF A--



OH,
SPARE ME
YOUR LECTURES,
"BROTHER"! I'VE
HEARD THEM
ALL!

THE THRONE
OF ASGARD WILL
SUIT YOU WELL
SOMEDAY, LITTLE
LORD OF
SANCTIMONY!



MARK MY
WORDS THAT
WHENEVER THAT
DAY COMES...

...WHEN ALL
YOUR DREAMS
LIE BEFORE YOU IN
GLEAMING, GOLDEN
SPLENDOR...

...LOKI WILL
BE THERE TO
MAKE THEM
ALL BURN.

UNTIL THAT
DAY THEN,
BROTHER.



UNTIL
THAT DAY.

"AND SO WE REACH THE END OF MY TALE, THOUGH IN TRUTH, STORIES NEVER TRULY END, DO THEY? ONE MERELY BLEEDS INTO THE NEXT.

"SO THE SAGA OF THE EPIC BATTLE BETWEEN THOR AND BODOLF THE BLACK... BECOMES THE STORY OF A LONELY VIKING, WANDERING THE EARTH, FIGHTING TO SUPPRESS THE MONSTER INSIDE HIM."



HRRRGHH!!!

THAT'S... HIGHER THAN THE LAST TIME.



"AND THE STORY OF A GOD STILL STRIVING TO BE WORTHY.



"AND OF A LOKI WHO WOULD SOMEDAY..."

"WELL... SOME STORIES ARE STILL YET TO BE WRITTEN."



THERE
IT IS! OPEN
FIRE!



GRENADES!
WE NEED
GRENADES!



I ASK YOU
FOR HELP, YOU
TELL ME A STORY
ABOUT VIKINGS AND
BRING ME TO A CAVE
WHERE AN ANGRY
DRAGON LIVES.

I'M STARTING
TO SEE WHY NO
ONE LIKES YOU,
LOKI.

OH, THIS
IS HOW ALL MY
FRIENDSHIPS BEGIN,
DARIO AGGER.
TELL THEM TO
AIM FOR ITS
EYES.

AAAAARRRRGGGGHHH!!!



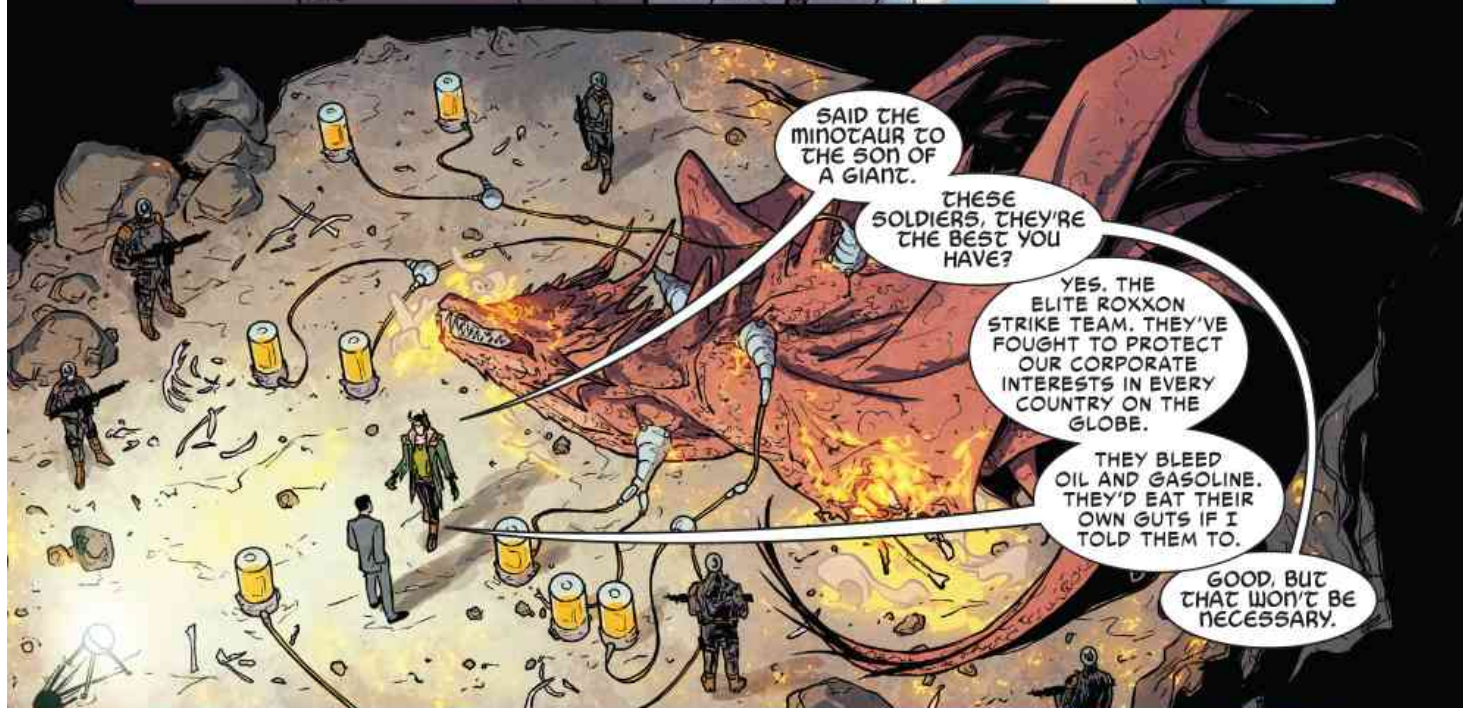
REST EASY,
OLD GIRL. YOUR
TIME HAD LONG
SINCE PASSED.



IT'S
AN AGE OF
NEW MONSTERS
NOW.

DRAGON
BLOOD? THAT'S
IT?

IT CAN'T BE
THAT SIMPLE.
THAT SORT OF
THING ONLY
WORKS IN FAIRY
TALES.



SAID THE
MINOTAUR TO
THE SON OF
A GIANT.

THESE
SOLDIERS, THEY'RE
THE BEST YOU
HAVE?

YES. THE
ELITE ROXXON
STRIKE TEAM. THEY'VE
FOUGHT TO PROTECT
OUR CORPORATE
INTERESTS IN EVERY
COUNTRY ON THE
GLOBE.

THEY BLEED
OIL AND GASOLINE.
THEY'D EAT THEIR
OWN GUTS IF I
TOLD THEM TO.

GOOD, BUT
THAT WON'T BE
NECESSARY.



JUST
TELL THEM
TO DRINK.

AND
ONCE ALL THE
SCREAMING HAS
FINISHED...

